

CLAIMS

1. Installation for the retrieval of a pollutant fluid (4) contained in at least one section (2) of transverse tanks of a sunken ship (1), this installation comprising means of introducing pressurized water into the section and means of delivering the pollutant fluid to the outside of the section, at least one connecting pipe (L) coming from an emergency ship (30) being able to be connected to one of the means of delivery, characterized in that it comprises a plurality of fixed pipes (t, T) each one having a first end and a second end (8, 9, 12, 13), these fixed pipes being positioned such that their first ends (8, 12) emerge at least at the level of each one of the corners of the ends of the section and in that their second ends (9, 13) are each attached to a valve (10, 14) which, on the one hand, is housed in a compartment (3) fixed above the floatation line of the sunken ship and, on the other hand, can be controlled from the outside of the sunken ship, each of the said fixed pipes being able, depending on the position of the sunken ship on the seabed, to constitute a means of introduction of pressurized water into the inside of the section or a means of delivery of the pollutant fluid to the exterior of the section.

2. Installation according to Claim 1, characterized in that each compartment (3) containing valves (10, 14) is fixed on the deck of the sunken ship (1).

30 3. Installation according to any one of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that a pair of fixed pipes (t, T) is connected to each compartment (3) containing two valves (10, 14).

35 4. Installation according to Claim 3, characterized in that each pair of fixed pipes comprises, on the one hand, a first short fixed pipe (t) emerging at the top part of the section (2), and, on the other hand, a second fixed pipe (T) emerging in

the bottom part of the section and having a length greater than the height of the tanks (5, 6).

5. Installation according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that four separate compartments 5 (3) containing valves (10, 14) are associated with each section (2) of transverse tanks.

10 6. Installation according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that each section (2) of transverse tanks can be divided into several tanks 10 (5, 6) able to connect with each other after opening valves (7) provided in walls separating the said tanks.

15 7. Installation according to Claim 6, characterized in that the valves (7) are positioned in the bottom part and in the top part of each of the 15 walls separating the tanks (5, 6) of a section (2).

8. Installation according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that each valve (7, 10, 14) is a parallel-slide gate valve.

20 9. Installation according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that a first end (8, 12) of a fixed pipe (t, T) emerges in each of the corners of 20 each tank (5, 6).

25 10. Installation according to Claim 9, characterized in that each tank (5, 6) is separated from an adjacent tank by a partition (40) and in that 25 this separating partition is traversed, in the vicinity of each of its corners, by a connector (41) to which is fitted a weighted valve (42) capable, depending of the position of the ship, of closing or opening the through 30 passage section of the said connector.